

REMARKS

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 14, 2006. Claims 1-15 are pending. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a transgenic mouse that has integrated a reporter gene in the locus of the Cx40gene. Claims 10-15 are hereby withdrawn from consideration. Applicants will request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims and will perfect this request when the elected claims are considered allowable.

Applicants also reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to non-elected subject matter. With the entry of this amendment, claims 1-9 will be active in this case. Applicants respectfully request examination of the instant application on the merits in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 12, 2007

Customer No. 26633

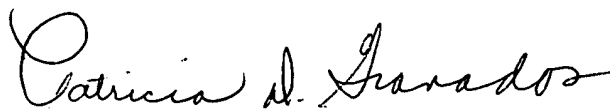
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